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Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Will the Government be pleased to make enquiries?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall look into the matter."

Prisons and Prisoners

Police surveillance of Mappilla prisoners released before the expiry of their term of imprisonment.

* 124 *Q.*—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any conditions have been imposed on those Mappillas who were convicted of offences connected with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921 and who have been released by the Government before the expiry of their terms;

(*b*) if so, what those conditions are;

(*c*) whether such Mappillas are required to present themselves before the police periodically at the respective police stations of their residence, after their return to Malabar;

(*d*) if so, whether the period during which they are so required to present themselves before the police is more than the period during which such Mappillas would have had to remain in prison, if no remission had been made;

(*e*) whether the Government are aware that many such Mappillas who are so released reside in places which are at very great distance from the police station and that the periodical presentation of themselves at the police station causes great hardship to such Mappillas; and

(*f*) whether the Government have considered the advisability of requiring such Mappillas to present themselves before the adhikari of their respective amsams or any responsible Government officers in their respective amsams, instead of requiring them to present themselves at the police stations?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The conditions are—

(1) that they shall remain of good behaviour; and

(2) that they shall report themselves once a month at a police station to be specified by the District Magistrate of Malabar up to the date on which they would normally have been released.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) & (*f*) No general complaint on the point has been received by Government. Where, however, it has been found that men are unable to move about on account either of old age, ill-health or other causes, Government have on the recommendation of the District Magistrate of Malabar either exempted them wholly from reporting themselves to the police periodically or ordered them to report themselves to the amsam adhikari instead of to the police.

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the hon. the Law Member will be pleased to revise the order and allow these men to report themselves to the adhikari of their respective amsams instead of to the police, in view of the fact that they are very poor people and unfortunately are not in a position to appeal to Government with regard to their disabilities?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"If my hon. Friend reads the printed answer to questions (e) and (f) he will find that in necessary cases the Government have already adopted those steps."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"There is a general complaint prevalent about the difficulties these people are put to; that is why I ask him whether in the case of all these persons a revised order will not be passed allowing them to report not to the police but to the adhikari of their respective amsams?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government are not prepared to pass such a general order. But if individual complaints are received, Government will certainly consider them and pass orders."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether, if the Mappilla hon. Members from Malabar bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member the difficulties these people are experiencing, Government will consider it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"In all these cases where difficulty has been experienced, orders have been passed in their favour."

Land Revenue Administration

Rates of assessment on wet, dry and garden lands in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar.

* 125 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the rates of assessment are on wet, dry and garden lands in South Kanara and in Malabar; and

(*b*) how the existing rates of assessment on these three classes of land in South Kanara compare with the enhanced rates of assessment as fixed by the recent resettlement on similar classes of land in Malabar?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The rates referred to are contained in the settlement notifications of the respective districts which have been published. Extracts are appended.[a]

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know as to whether it is not a fact that the enhanced rates of assessment in Malabar are much less than the present rates of assessment in South Kanara?"

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 121–122 infra.